

CENSUS AND STATISTICS ACT 1905- section 13

STATEMENT NO. 3 OF 2014

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

## RELEASE OF LISTS OF BUSINESSES FOR SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA

In accordance with the provisions of Clause 6 of the Statistics Determination 1983 made under Section 13 of the Census and Statistics Act 1905, I intend to disclose to Safe Work Australia a list of names and addresses of approximately 10,000 businesses taken from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Business Register based on the Australian Business Register.

The lists will be used by Safe Work Australia to conduct a survey on businesses experiences with work health and safety legislation and the costs of compliance with regulations. The information collected in this survey will inform the upcoming (2014) Council of Australian Governments evaluation of uniform work health and safety laws, and contribute to the annual reporting requirements of the Intergovernmental Agreement for Regulatory and Operational Reform in Occupational Health and Safety.

For each business in the sample, the Australian Bureau of Statistics will provide from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Business Register:

- the name, address and phone number;
- industry (sub-division level);
- employment size (micro non-employing, small (<20), medium (20-299), large (300-1999) and extra large (2000+)); and
- state/territory.

This is the third time such a service has been made available to Safe Work Australia. In 2012 the Australian Bureau of Statistics made two list releases under Clause 6 of the Statistics Determination 1983 available to Safe Work Australia to conduct surveys on Perceptions of Work Health and Safety and Regulatory Burden. Such access to Australian Bureau of Statistics lists will improve the accuracy of Safe Work Australia's surveys, and ensure adequate coverage of businesses of most importance in regards to work health and safety reforms.

Safe Work Australia has provided me with a written undertaking that it will:

- a. use the list specified in the Schedule to this undertaking only for the purpose of conducting the 'Health and Safety at Work: your experiences and costs' survey (the Survey), which does not involve the enforcing of any obligation or liability applicable under any enactment;
- b. not release the list or any part of the list, either directly or indirectly, to another person outside of Safe Work Australia other than to a contractor who

may require access to the list for the purposes of providing services to Safe Work Australia;

- c. appoint a contact officer who will manage the processes for individuals within Safe Work Australia to request access to the list release; and will circulate information to individuals within Safe Work Australia who are granted approval by the Australian Bureau of Statistics to access the list;
- d. maintain a register of all officers of Safe Work Australia who have access to the list and provide a copy of that register to the Australian Bureau of Statistics on request and on return of the list to the Australian Bureau of Statistics;
- e. if it is necessary for a contractor to have access to the list for the purpose of providing services to Safe Work Australia, Safe Work Australia will ensure that the contractor and every person employed by the contractor who has access to the list provide the Australian Statistician with a relevant undertaking prior to accessing the list;
- f. advise respondents in writing that the Survey is:
  - i. conducted by Safe Work Australia from lists of names and addresses obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics in accordance with legislative guidelines;
  - ii. not covered by the Australian Bureau of Statistics guarantee of confidentiality; and
  - iii. is not compulsory.
- g. clear any relevant explanatory material for the Survey with the Australian Bureau of Statistics prior to dispatch;
- h. provide a copy of the Survey results and any information relevant to the maintenance of Australian Bureau of Statistics registers if so requested by the Australian Bureau of Statistics;
- i. for the purpose of conducting a compliance audit concerning observance of the terms and conditions under which the list is disclosed allow Australian Bureau of Statistics officers access to necessary documents and information;
- j. destroy or return all copies of the list to the Australian Bureau of Statistics as soon as the Survey has been completed; and
- k. ensure that if the Chief Executive Officer changes, a new undertaking with the Australian Bureau of Statistics is signed within three months.

Jonathan Palmer  
Acting Australian Statistician

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